Regional State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Pondicherry	7.93	12.00	21.10
Eastern Region:			
Bihar	17.86	51.70	37.98
Jharkhand	—	26.39	21.19
Orissa	44.91	47.34	45.36
Sikkim	24.98	31.73	54.85
West Bengal	29.44	31.67	25.93
A&N Island	17.49	29.20	19.78
North Eastern Region			
Assam	40.71	42.78	38.30
Manipur	58.49	62.35	63.66
Meghalaya	20.97	22.66	21.92
Nagaland	24.60	52.32	56.71
Tripura	43.89	40.38	40.64
Arunachal Pradesh	34.41	53.58	38.95
Mizoram	45.42	49.77	46.91
All India	**32.86**	**33.98**	**32.54**

Allocation of funds to cut down T&D losses

42. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has allocated Rs. 1400 crores to States to cut down power transmission and distribution losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had received any more proposal from the State Governments to enhance the allocations therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) The Government has allocated Rs. 3500 crores for Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme (APDRP) for the year 2004-05 *i.e.* Rs. 1750 crores under investment component and Rs. 1750 crores under incentive component for upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system network in the States with a view to reduce the transmission, distribution and commercial losses. Since year 2002-03, the Government has sanctioned projects amounting to Rs. 17,619.07 crores under APDRP out of which APDRP component is Rs. 10,096.11 crores including those sanctioned in 2004-05.

(c) and (d) During the current financial year 2004-05, the Government has sanctioned sub-transmission and distribution projects amounting to Rs. 1008.88 crores to various states.

Free electricity to farmers

43. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent ASSOCHAM Report saying that the cost of free electricity given to farmers by different State Boards in Rs. 20,000 crore over last five years is true; and

(b) if so, how does the Government propose to recover the loss thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) According to a press release of Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industries of India (ASSOCHAM), the power tariff subsidy granted to the agriculture sector has eroded the revenues of State Electricity Board to the extent of around Rs. 20,000 crores in the last five years. Basis of this assessment is not available in this communication.